
245.50

Public Health Nursing Services

Introduction

Public health agencies offer a variety of services in the community which may be of benefit to WIC participants, including:

- Childhood immunizations,
 - Skilled nursing care and care coordination for individuals with acute or chronic illnesses,
 - Prenatal and postpartum health education,
 - Education about nutrition, safety, child development, and regular medical care,
 - Identification of and assistance in accessing community resources for individuals or families with special needs such as language barriers, developmental disabilities, limited family living skills, or financial difficulties,
 - Medicaid care coordination (Care for Kids),
 - Parenting education and support, and
 - Protective services for children who are suspected victims of child abuse or neglect.
-

Delivery of services

Public Health Nurses work individually with clients or with other professionals to assist individuals, families, groups and communities with lifestyle changes for optimal health. In some WIC clinics, Public Health Nurses provide the health assessment and education services for program participants. In other clinics, Public Health Nurses provide immunizations or care coordination services. Access to Public Health Nursing services is also available through referrals.

Availability of services

Public health nursing services are available in every county. WIC agencies are strongly encouraged to work and collaborate with the public health nursing agencies in their service area to develop referral criteria.

Payment for services

Public health nursing services are funded by various sources, including state grants, sliding scale fees, Medicaid, Medicare, insurance, donations, and county funds.

Making a referral

To make a written referral, complete a Referral from the WIC Program form (see Policy 245.20A). Document referrals for public health nursing services in the data system as well as follow-up on written referrals.

This page is intentionally left blank.